

General Notes.

The owners of the Milwaukee, Wisconsin flour mill, seven in number, met last week and formed a combination involving five millions capital for an annual output of a million and a half barrels. The combination will elect officers and act as a single corporation.

Last year the vessels launched in the United Kingdom of Great Britain approached very closely to 1,272,000 tons. The Clyde heads the list with a total tonnage of 335,231 tons. Next comes the Tyne, with 281,710 tons. The Wear is third on the list, with 227,336 tons. Then the Tees, with 120,436 tons. The shipbuilding yards in Belfast have launched tonnage to the amount of 80,030. In the previous year there were at the same time vessels on hand having a total of 233,301 tons.

The assignment is at last announced of A. W. Morris & Bro., cordage works, Montreal, on demand of Bassell & Co., with total liabilities amounting to half a million dollars. The principal creditor is Molson's bank, with \$92,000 secured and \$30,000 unsecured. A statement of the affairs of the firm a short time ago placed assets at \$250,000 over liabilities. A large stock of binder twine, carried over, is partly responsible for the present troubles.

The combined salmon production of the Pacific Coast for 1889 was 1,750,000 cases. The following is the output of various canneries on this coast. Alaska, 675,000 cases; British Columbia, 414,400 cases; Columbia River, 328,000 cases; Sacramento River, 57,200 cases, and other places, including Puget Sound, 275,300 cases. The principal shipments were made to Europe and the Eastern Atlantic cities.

A correspondent of the *Rural Press*, writing from Placerville, Cal., reports that the honey crop of California for 1889 amounted to 1,092,900 pounds from 64,630 hives in 39 counties, returns having been received from 64,630 beekeepers. This the correspondent believes to be the most comprehensive report of the California honey crop ever made.

Grip begins its thirty-fourth volume with the New Year, which means that this brave little journal has celebrated its seventeenth birthday. When we say—as we can without hesitation—that its ability both literary and artistic has been kept up to a uniformly high standard throughout this long period, and that to-day it is as bright as ever, we mention a fact exceedingly creditable, not only to the conductors of *Grip*, but also to the Canadian people, without whose appreciation and support this phenomenon of journalism would have been impossible. We call it a phenomenon advisedly, for so far as we are aware, there is not another country of Canada's age—certainly no other Colony—that can boast of a sixteen year-old comic journal. *Grip* has well deserved its success. It is not merely a clever and amusing paper, it is also a recognized power in Canadian public life, and a power which, we are glad to say, is always on the right side where questions of moral principle are concerned. It ought to be a pleasure to every Canadian to contribute to the success of such a journal, and the most practical way of doing this is by subscribing. The price is two dollars per year.

The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* says: The Dominion Cordage Company is the name of a new company which is being organized by Auguste Girard, jr., for the purpose of manu-

facturing machine and hand-made cordage. Mr Girard has associated with him a number of practical rope makers in the Dominion, and several gentlemen in this city have promised financial support. It is the intention of the promoters of this enterprise to keep exclusively to the manufacture of cordage for the present, and when the trade in binder twine assumes a healthier condition and the requirements of the future are better understood, that branch of manufacture will also be taken up. It is thought that jute binder twine will supercede that of manilla and sisal, and hence it is the intention of the new concern to abstain from entering upon this branch of the business at present.

A broker in *Chicago Daily Business* says: "This mild, open winter, while it is favorable for fattening hogs, is very disastrous for the hundreds and thousands of farmers in the south and southwest, who each kill a few hogs for home use, and has also spoiled immense quantities of meat in the aggregate, for the packers at small interior western points who had no ice or other chilling facilities. The factor in the situation is thoroughly proved by the immense demand from the south, southwest and west for smoked meats, which is even now so heavy that our packers have been unable to accumulate any stock of fully cured ribs, purchases of eight or ten cars per day taking everything available. Southern jobbers are already grasped the situation and have in the past ten days bought very heavily of future ribs here. Several of our largest packers are also very bullish, and have been buying hogs freely and holding on to the bulk of the product ever since early in December, when they saw an open winter was probable and that there was no such supply of heavy hogs in the country as the bear speculators had been asserting for months past."

We are in receipt of a copy of Harris' *Rural Annual* for 1890. It is forty years this spring since Mr. Harris moved on to his present farm of 250 acres, near Rochester, N. Y. For ten years he was editor and proprietor of the *Geneee Farmer*. His "Walks and Talks on the Farm" commenced in the *Geneee Farmer*, and continued for many years in the *American Agriculturist*, have made his farm known to tens of thousands of readers, who will be glad to get a copy of the *Rural Annual*. It will be sent free to any reader of this journal who will send his or her name to the publishers. Address, Joseph Harris Seed Co. Moreton Farm, Monroe Co., N. Y.

The *Dominion Illustrated* for January 18 has many welcome features in the illustration of Canadian scenery. British Columbia is unusually well represented by two views of Nanaimo, Vancouver Island, showing an old H. B. Co.'s bastion. With a melancholy interest we look at the fine picture of the herd of bison on Bedson's farm, Stony Mountain, Manitoba, as we remember that the buffalo are now gone, and only their shadow remains. The place of honor in this number is occupied by Lieut.-Col. W. White, Deputy Postmaster-General. Altogether, it is a good number pictorially. The letter-press also is in keeping with the illustrations. The *Dominion Illustrated*, 73 St. James-street, Montreal.

W. T. SMITH livery and butcher, Glenboro, Man., advertises his butcher business for sale.

British Columbia.

Goodwin & Jordan, piano manufacturers, Victoria, have dissolved partnership.

The majority of the Victoria sailing schooners have started out on the spring hunt.

The *Victorian*, a weekly paper started a short time ago at Victoria, has suspended publication.

The estate of the late A. L. McMullen, dry goods, Vancouver, is offered for sale by tender, up to Jan. 22.

J. C. Crane, general agent of the Sun Life, Victoria, has associated with himself Wm. McGregor of Montreal, under the title of Crane, McGregor & Co.

The *Star* is still published at Revelstoke, notwithstanding its reported absorption by the *Kamloops Sentinel*. The two papers joined forces to get out a combined holiday issue (which by the way was an excellent number) hence the report of the consolidation of the two papers.

Two buildings have collapsed at Westminster, owing to the weight of snow on the roof. One a section of Laidlaw's salmon cannery and the other a large warehouse belonging to Porte, the fish dealer. The snow has been remarkably heavy this year, and has remained on the ground much longer than usual. Navigation on the Fraser river remained closed for weeks.

The *Vancouver News* says: E. J. Rogers and Charles Dunbar, two St. Paul, Minnesota, capitalists, have, during the last two days, closed real estate transactions in this city aggregating \$200,000. The property is situated principally on Penler and Hastings streets and the Brighthouse estate. Both gentlemen are highly pleased with the prospects of the city, and are satisfied that their investments will be exceedingly profitable.

The *Victoria Colonial* says: "The year 1890 gives promise of being an improvement on the year just closed in the building line, though over \$1,000,000 were expended in new buildings during 1889. Already plans have been prepared for a numerous array of costly buildings. The Pandora street Methodist church will erect a edifice costing not less than \$30,000 on the corner of Pandora and Quilra streets. St. Andrew's (R. C.) congregation will erect a handsome cathedral costing in the neighborhood of \$75,000. Three and four-story brick blocks will be put up at the corner of Government and Fort streets, at the corner of Government and Broughton streets, at the corner of Douglas and ... streets, at the corner of Johnson and ... streets, at the corner of Yates and ... streets, and similar buildings will replace primitive structures on Government, Yates, Fort, Johnson and Douglas streets. Besides these it is believed that the Canadian Western Hotel Co. will begin the construction of a hotel costing \$150,000; and the proprietors of the Dryard have stated their intention to erect a seven-story addition to their hotel, facing on View street. The Mt. Royal Milling Co. will add a flour mill and warehouse to their present rice mill, and it is also within the possibilities that the buildings for a sugar refinery will be commenced during the year. Residential improvements promise to be more numerous than during 1889, for, notwithstanding the great number of houses erected in the past year, there is not a vacant habitable house within the city.